

How High Is Your HIV Vaccine IQ?

True or False?

4 You have to be infected with HIV to participate in a preventive HIV vaccine clinical trial.

5 Before someone volunteers for a trial, he or she is told about all possible consequences.

6 Preventive HIV vaccines go through an intensive testing process before being tested on people.

7 Some day, a preventive HIV vaccine may stop people from becoming infected with HIV.

1 Scientists have already developed a vaccine that prevents the spread of the HIV virus which causes AIDS.

2 Only men who have sex with men or people who use drugs should be concerned about a preventive HIV vaccine.

3 You can become infected with HIV by participating in a clinical trial.

8 A therapeutic HIV vaccine would not stop an individual from becoming infected with HIV, but might act to slow down the progression of AIDS.

9 Each year, there are approximately 40,000 new HIV infections in the United States.

10 Currently, many people from minority groups are taking part in U.S. preventive HIV vaccine trials.



How High Was Your HIV Vaccine IQ?

1 False! No such vaccine exists yet. There are, however, many vaccines which are currently being tested.

2 False! Particularly in the Latino community, AIDS is spreading quickly among heterosexuals and non-drug users.

3 False! None of the preventive HIV vaccines currently being tested contain the HIV virus. Unlike many other vaccines, preventive HIV vaccines will only use an artificial copy of the virus. By not using real HIV, it is impossible to ever “catch” HIV from the vaccine.

4 False! You have to be “sero-negative,” which means not infected with HIV.

5 True! Every volunteer receives counseling so that he or she clearly understands the risks and benefits of trial participation. Participants also sign an “informed consent form” – a legal document which explains the trial process in a clear and understandable way.

6 True! All vaccines must be tested both in the laboratory and on animals before being given to people. Only those vaccines that are promising and safe move forward to human trials.

7 True! Scientists are trying to develop a vaccine that would prevent a person from ever becoming infected with HIV. Medical experts consider a preventive HIV vaccine to be the best way to stop the HIV virus – and therefore, AIDS – from spreading.

8 True! This is a second kind of vaccine which researchers are trying to develop for people who are *already* infected with the HIV virus. A therapeutic vaccine doesn't exist yet either.

9 True! And, almost 20% of AIDS cases in this country are among Latinos – even though Latinos make up 13% of the population.

10 False! Few members of minority groups are taking part. This is a challenge, because developing an effective preventive HIV vaccine requires the participation of different racial and ethnic communities across the globe.

